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Commission on the Status of Women
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Open-ended Working Group on the Elaboration of a Draft Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
1–12 March 1999
Agenda item 6
Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, including the elaboration of a draft optional protocol to the Convention

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairperson of the Open-ended Working Group, Aloisia Wörgetter (Austria), on the basis of informal consultations

The Commission on the Status of Women recommends to the Economic and Social Council the approval of the following draft resolution for adoption by the General Assembly:

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Reaffirming* the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action[1] and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[2]

"*Recalling* that the Beijing Platform for Action, pursuant to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, supported the process initiated by the Commission on the Status of Women with a view to elaborating a draft optional

[1] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[2] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

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protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[3] that could enter into force as soon as possible on a right to petition procedure,

"*Noting* that the Beijing Platform for Action also called on all States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention to do so as soon as possible so that universal ratification of the Convention can be achieved by the year 2000,

"1. *Adopts and opens for signature, ratification and accession* the Optional Protocol to the Convention, the text of which is annexed to the present resolution;

"2. *Calls upon* all States which have signed, ratified or acceded to the Convention to sign and ratify or accede to the Protocol as soon as possible;

"3. *Stresses* that States Parties to the Protocol should undertake to respect the rights and procedures provided by the Protocol and cooperate with the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women at all stages of its proceedings under the Protocol;

"4. *Stresses* that in the fulfilment of its mandate as well as its functions under the Protocol, the Committee should continue to be guided by the principles of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity;

"5. *Requests* the Committee to hold meetings to exercise its functions under the Protocol after its entry into force, in addition to its meetings held under article 20 of the Convention. The duration of such meetings shall be determined and, if necessary, reviewed by a meeting of the States Parties to the Protocol, subject to the approval of the General Assembly;

"6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the staff and facilities necessary for the effective performance of the functions of the Committee under the Protocol after its entry into force;

"7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include information on the status of the Protocol in her or his regular reports submitted to the General Assembly on the status of the Convention."

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[3] General Assembly resolution 34/180, annex.